

Ravalli Co. Commissioners
215 S. 4th St. Suite A
Hamilton, Mt., 59840

January 30, 2009

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Dear Commissioners:

Ravalli County Commissioners

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Ravalli County does not need a bigger airport.

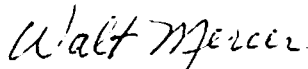
There are several reasons for this statement and number one is that the taxpayers would need to put up the money and pay for the maintenance and administration for an investment and expense that is not needed. (I'm one of the taxpayers) Number two is that the aircraft traffic is insufficient to justify the expenditure. The present airport is safe and sufficient to handle all aircraft traffic in this area for many years to come and a Jet airport in this valley is something that is not needed.

I am a pilot and have flown over most of the United States, landed in various sized airports from New York to California and Florida to British Columbia and numerous airports in between including most of those in Montana. I believe I know whereof I speak.

The present option of No Action for the expansion is what I would vote for.

However, if the special interest group wishes to expand the airport let them pay for and maintain it. Their tax consultants, I'm sure, could work out a deal whereby these expenditures would be an income tax deduction.

Yours truly,



Walt Mercer
3655 Hwy 93
Stevensville, Mt. 59870